at that place. There is however a proposal under the consideration of the Inspector-General of Registration to open a Sub-Registry Office at Valayam in the Kurumbaranad tlauk."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether the proposals under Part II schemes with regard to the opening of sub-registry offices in various places which were put off for the sake of the partition of the State will be taken up now for execution?"

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU:—" They will be taken into account in the next Budget, Sir."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM:—" What is the exact distance between the place known as Vilayattur and the place in which it is proposed to open the registration office at Valayam and what is the exact distance between Vilayathur and the nearest registration office?"

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU:—" I want notice, Sir."

Acquittal of a Prohibition case in South Arcot district.

* 197 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state whether any Prohibition case was acquitted in the South Arcot district up to 31st October in the year 1953 for the reason that arrack is not prohibited liquor?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM:—" The answer is in the affirmative."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN:—" May I ask why 'arrack' is not prohibited?"

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM:—" Arrack is prohibited."

Leasing of waste lands in Kuthali Nayar's Estate.

* 198 *Q.*—SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many acres of waste lands in Kuthali Nayar's Estate, Kurumbaranad taluk, have been allowed for cultivation in 1949–50, 1950–51 and 1951–52;

(*b*) for how many years they have been leased to tenants; and

(*c*) whether the tenants have the right to effect improvements?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—" (*a*) 1,119 acres in 1949.

1,099 acres in 1950.
1,104·50 acres in 1951.
912·50 acres in 1952.
810·0 acres in 1953.

" (*b*) The lands are being leased out annually.

" (*c*) No. Sir."

SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV:—" Is it a fact that about 22,000 acres of waste lands suitable for paddy cultivation are lying idle in the estate and if so will the Government take urgent steps to lease these lands to landless peasants? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—" It is not a fact, Sir. The only available area which can be put to some kind of cultivation is only 1,200 acres."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP:—" May I know the extent of area of the estate under forest and the extent of arable land? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—" If a separate question is put, I shall be able to answer."

DR. K. B. MENON:—" If I am right, I believe there is large extent of territory in Malabar under Government possession. Why is it that the extent of that area is decreasing every year and will the Government give those lands to peasants for permanent occupancy? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—" These are lands which are fit for only fugitive cultivation which could be resorted to only once within a period of three years or five years. That is why it varies, Sir."

SRI R. KRISHNAN:—" സാർ, കുത്താളി എസ്റ്റേറ്റിന്റെ വിസ്തീർണ്ണം 55,000 ഏക്കർ ആണെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അറിവ്. ഇതു മുഴുവനും ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ കൈവശമാണ്. ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മന്ത്രി ഇപ്പോൾ പറഞ്ഞ കണക്കുപ്രകാരം വളരെ കുറച്ചു ഏക്കർ മാത്രമാണ് കൃഷിക്കാർക്ക് വിതരണം ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളത്. ഇതിൽത്തന്നെ മാക്സിമം എത്രയാണ് കൊടുക്കുന്നത് എന്നറിയുന്നില്ല. കൃഷി ചെയ്യാവുന്നേടത്തോളം സ്ഥലം കഴിക്കൂറുകൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കുവാനുള്ള അവകാശത്തോടുകൂടി കൃഷിക്കാർക്ക് പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുമോ? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—" Sir, the Kuthali estate covers a large area. That is why probably one portion is a kind of reserved forest which cannot be leased out for cultivation. Regarding another Melvaram there is a civil suit pending and as such, no lands could be distributed in that area. Only in respect of Valiyapatta Melvaram the Government are in a position to give lands and there only 1,200 acres are available for fugitive cultivation."

SRI K. T. SRIDHARAN.—" Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that in many cases cultivators are not able to effect any improvements because the lands are leased out only for one year to them? If so, will the Hon. Minister take steps to lease them out for a longer period? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—" It is because it is only for fugitive cultivation. It can be done only once in three years or once in five years."

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SRI C. KUNHIRAMA KURUP :—" Sir, have the Government
9-10 a.m. received any memorandum from the Secretary of the Praja Socialist Party, Malabar, requesting to lease the vast area of Kuthali estate to the landless poor and if so, what action has been taken so far? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" Sir, as to the memorandum, I am not able to answer readily and I should insist on a separate notice. Every applicant is given land."

SRI A. APPU :—" My I know, Sir, whether a large number of poor persons who raised fugitive crops on waste lands were prosecuted by the Government last year? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" Sir, regarding prosecutions in this Estate, I do not think there was any such case."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Sir, it seems that this is the only consolidated block of land in the possession of Government. Will the Government consider organizing cultivation on a co-operative basis and take the initiative in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" Government will consider that suggestion, Sir."

SRI M. NARAYANA NAMBIAR :—" What is the extent of land given to each lessee and what are the crops raised there, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" Sir, regarding the first part of the question, I want notice. As for the second part, the crops raised are tapioca and other fugitive crops."

SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV :—" Will the Government take urgent steps to lease the lands which had been already allotted for cultivation in the last three years, for a considerable period, say twelve years, so that the tenants can improve the lands? "

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" Government will consider that, Sir."

Construction of a bridge over Kottur Ferry.

* 199 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state the reasons for not implementing the Government's proposal to construct a bridge over Kottur Ferry to connect Changalayi and Iritty for public transport?

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" The bridge work referred to by the hon. Member is presumably the one at M 5/5 of the road from Kayambai to Kottur Ferry and on to Kalliad which was sanctioned for execution for maintenance of law